(d) the States that have helped Maharashtra in supplying the power?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) According to Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Limited (MSEDCL), they are purchasing power from other States through power traders at higher rate.

(b) Maharashtra State Power Generation Company Ltd. (MSGPCL) proposes to add 3,675 MW by way of new capacity addition and replacement of existing units which have completed more than 30 years of operation. MSGPCL is in the process of tying up of basic inputs and obtaining statutory clearances required for these projects.

(c) NTPC proposes to set up the Mauda Thermal Power Project (2x500 MW) in Mauda Tehsil of Nagpur District, Maharashtra. Action has been initiated for obtaining necessary clearances including from the State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) and acquisition of land. Public hearing for NOC from SPCB (Maharashtra) has been held on 18th June, 2007. Action has also been initiated for obtaining Environmental clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests. The project is expected to be commissioned during the Eleventh Plan period.

(d) According to the Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Ltd., power traders have sourced power for Maharashtra mainly from West Bengal, Orissa, Sikkim and Kerala.

Delayed power projects

2226. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government/public sector power generation projects are lagging behind their schedules;

(b) if so, the details thereof, project-wise;

(c) the reasons therefor, project-wise;

(d) the escalation in cost due to delay, project-wise; and

(e) the steps taken to improve the scenario?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (e) The position is being ascertained and would be laid on the Table of the House.

Power failure in Delhi

2227. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was power failure in many parts of Delhi and it took upto 12 hours and even more by the private companies responsible for distribution of power in the city to rectify the faults;

(b) whether Government are aware that the concerned power companies have cut their work force required for the purpose and have also inadequate recovery vans, which causes serious delays in rectifying the faults; and

(c) if so, the action Government propose to take to rectify the situation so that Delhi's population does not have to suffer unduly?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE) (a) Electricity is a Concurrent subject. Supply and distribution of electricity in a State/UT is within purview of the respective State Government/State Power Utility. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Government by establishing power plants in central sector through CPSUs. Unscheduled power cuts are resorted to at times due to a variety of reasons like sudden drop in generation, drop in the grid frequency, outages in the transmission and distribution network etc.

(b) and (c) According to the information obtained by Government of NCT of Delhi from the private Discoms of Delhi, the facilities for addressing/attending to faults and complaints in their respective areas are as below:

NDPL

Adequate staff for ensuring attendance of complaints within 2 hours, one breakdown attending vehicle in each of its 46 zones, five vans for maintaining communication with public regarding breakdowns, etc., three state-of-art fault locating vans, one mobile transformer (sub-station) in each of its 12 districts.

BSES

After taking over operations in Delhi, BSES Discoms have strengthened its Rapid Power Restoration by mobilizing 118 complaint centres, 83 breakdown vans, 4 EHV fault locating vans, 33 nos. 11kV fault locating vans, 43 emergency power restoration vans, 29 mobile transformers, 33 tower wagons and 255 high pot testing kits.

Working of private Discoms in Delhi

2228. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the indifference and inefficiency of BSES, one of the power companies responsible for power distribution in Delhi, in the matter of attending to public complaints regarding power failure in its area;

(b) whether Government are also aware that this company takes unduly long time in rectifying faults, as the number of recovery vans and the personnel available with them are inadequate; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take, so that Delhi citizens being served by this company do not suffer unduly?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE) (a) to (c) The distribution companies are regulated by the respective State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERCs) under the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003. Under sections 57 and 86(1) of the Act, SERCs have also been entrusted the function of specifying and enforcing standards with respect to quality, continuity and reliability of services by licenses. Under Section 50 of the Act, SERCs are also required to specify Electricity Supply Code. The Act also provides for setting up of